

***Remarks***

Reconsideration of this Application is respectfully requested.

Upon entry of the foregoing amendment, claims 19-22 are pending in the application, with claims 19 and 20 being the independent claims. Claims 19-22 are sought to be amended. Support for these amendments can be found in the specification on page 8, lines 4 through 8. These changes are believed to introduce no new matter, and their entry is respectfully requested.

Based on the above amendment and the following remarks, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn.

***Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102***

Claims 19 and 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Grayson, et al, U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/0028668 (Grayson). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Grayson does not teach or suggest each and every element of Applicants amended independent claims 19 and 20. In FIG. 4 and its accompanying description, Grayson describes the allocation of an integral number of short burst of equal length. (Grayson, FIG. 4; ¶¶ [0028] - [0038]). In contrast, in Applicants' amended claim 19 and 20, a method and signal are provided (respectively) which are adapted to allocate a channel to each of the transceivers in a flexible manner either by providing periodic blocks, each occupied by one long burst, or by providing periodic blocks, each occupied by an integral number of short bursts of equal length.

Thus, Grayson does not teach or suggest a method in which a plurality of transceivers "transmit data in [a time divided multiple access] channel with a format including periodic blocks of constant length each occupied by either one long burst or an integral number of short bursts of equal length and whereby the division of each block into either one long burst or a number of short bursts is determined flexibly," as recited in amended independent claim 19.

In addition, Grayson does not teach or suggest a "wireless link signal having a format including periodic blocks of constant length each occupied by either one long burst or an integral number of short bursts of equal length , whereby the division of each block into either one long burst or a number of short bursts is determined flexibly," as recited in amended independent claim 20.

For at least the foregoing reasons, amended independent claims 19 and 20 are patentable over Grayson. Reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection is therefore respectfully requested.

***Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103***

In the Office Action, claims 21 and 22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Grayson. Applicants respectfully traverses this rejection.

As discussed above, Grayson does not teach or suggest every element in Applicants' amended independent claims 19 and 20. Amended claim 21 depends from claim 19. Amended claim 22 depends from claim 20. For at least these reasons, and further in view of their own features, dependent claims 21 and 22 are patentable over Grayson. Reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection is therefore respectfully requested.

***Conclusion***

All of the stated grounds of objection and rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn. Applicants believe that a full and complete reply has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment and Reply is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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